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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/089,593	08/06/2002	Eric Vaultot	BDL-380XX	2476

207 7590 04/27/2004

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BOSTON, MA 02109

EXAMINER

CHAN, SING P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1734

DATE MAILED: 04/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/089,593

Applicant(s)

VAULOT, ERIC

Examiner

Sing P Chan

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-13 and 17-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 August 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nassof (U.S. 3,782,495).

Regarding claim 1, Nassof discloses a plastic film for forming a ceiling tile. The film can be printed (Col 2, lines 34-53) and is considered capable of being printed with shape with predetermined dimensions once the film is hot-tensioned, wherein a number of sheets are used to form a number of ceiling tile for the ceiling. (Figure 1)

Regarding claim 2, Nassof discloses the material for forming the film includes polyvinyl chloride. (Col 2, lines 34-53)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nassof (U.S. 3,782,495) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Wang et al (U.S. 4,756,951).

Nassof as disclosed above is silent as to Polyvinyl chloride film is a multilayer film. However, forming a multilayer film as a decorative film is well known and conventional as shown for example by Wang et al. Wang et al discloses a decorative surface covering for wall or ceiling. The covering includes a translucent layer of PVC material, a substrate layer contenting vinyl chloride, i.e. polyvinyl chloride, and a wear layer of PVC. (Col 3, lines 62-67, Col 4, lines 22-25, and Col 6, lines 29-36)

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to form the PVC film as a multilayer film as disclosed by Wang et al in the plastic film of Nassof to provide a film, which is easily handle, easily clean, and durable.

5. Claims 4 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nassof (U.S. 3,782,495) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Wolinski (U.S. 3,619,344).

Nassof as disclosed above is silent as to the film is mono- or bi-oriented. However, orienting decorative film is well known and conventional as shown for example by Wolinski. Wolinski discloses oriented foam laminar structures. The structure is form of laminated PVC films to a foam core and PVC films are biaxially oriented, wherein the structures are usable as decorative wall panel, which considered to includes ceiling tile. (Col 2, lines 7-62 and Col 6, lines 5-16)

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to provide biaxially oriented PVC film in the decorative material as disclosed by Wolinski in the plastic film of Nassof to provide a film with more tear resistant and allow easy handling.

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6. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nassof (U.S. 3,782,495) in view of Wang et al (U.S. 4,756,951) as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Wolinski (U.S. 3,619,344).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 14-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

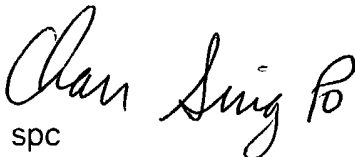
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sing P Chan whose telephone number is 571-272-1225.

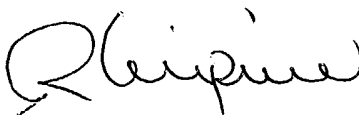
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The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30AM-11:15AM and 12:15PM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard D Crispino can be reached on 571-272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


spc


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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